

City of Biggs

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: G. Michael Vasquez, PE – Engineering Staff

DATE: October 18, 2010 Council Meeting, prepared October 11, 2010

SUBJECT: Activity Report & Project Updates

Activity Report:

- Water utility operating costs and community hall project scope continue to be staff projects in process, both scheduled for Public Works Committee review Oct 27.
- No news is available from USDA on funding for WWTP project, despite our many contacts to the USDA office.
- Staff continues to regularly prepare and submit reimbursement requests from the State and USDA for ongoing projects. We are current on project reimbursements. (G. M. Vasquez, M. Powell)
- The State does not have any updates on review or award of the 2010 CDBG or 9th Cycle Safe Routes to School funding applications that Staff submitted earlier this year. Funding award announcements were expected late last month from CDBG. Safe Routes to School funding announcements are expected in December. Staff will monitor these applications and keep the Council updated with any news. (G. M. Vasquez)
- Staff reviewed and commented on the third site plan submittal submitted by developer Rufus Casey's for a project at the northeast corner of D and 7th Streets. The developer has a few items remaining to address before Staff can approve the site plan. These items are Staff comments that were previously provided to the developer in the first and second review comment letters. Please see the City Planner's report for more project description. (G. M. Vasquez)
- Staff reviewed and commented on the first site plan submittal submitted by Enrique and Hortensia Jackson for a project at 2966 West Biggs-Gridley Road. This site plan was approved with conditions. Please see the City Planner's report for more project description. (G. M. Vasquez)
- Staff worked with Sunwest Mill's engineer to provide as-built information for Bannock Street between Eighth Street and West Biggs Gridley Road. Sunwest Mill asked for the information to use for a potential future project. A project description is not known at this time. Sunwest Mill will submit plans and go through the approval process with the City when ready.
- Staff met with the Public Works Committee on September 28, 2010 to review ongoing projects.

- Staff is currently working to revise and update the City's encroachment permit application to include more specific City right-of-way design and construction requirements that prospective developers can use to know what to expect when planning a project.

Project Updates:

- **Project:** USDA Sewer Line Repair Project

Status: The contractor completed striping and final punch list items late last month. The contractor has now completed the project to the satisfaction of the City. Staff is 50% complete with project closeout and will bring an action item to the November Council Meeting for formal project acceptance.

The City Attorney has a discussion item on his agenda for this Council Meeting to discuss legal matters for this project.

Staff: G. M. Vasquez

- **Project:** City of Biggs Roadway Rehabilitation Project (West Biggs Gridley Road)

Status: The contractor completed striping and final punch list items late last month. The contractor has now completed roadway transition repairs on West Biggs Gridley Road to the satisfaction of the City. Staff is 50% complete with closing out the Proposition 1B, West Biggs Gridley Road, and C Street Projects, and will bring an action item to the November Council Meeting for formal acceptance.

Staff: G. M. Vasquez

- **Project:** Hydro-Pneumatic Tank Project (In association with the USDA Well Project)

Status: The project is in the testing phase and is more than 95% complete. All major project components have been completed, installed or connected, including the 10,000-gallon tank, concrete foundation, water main piping and valves, air compressor unit within the existing well building, electrical, painting of aboveground piping, fencing, and disinfection. Tank system functionality testing began on October 11, 2010 revealing a minor air leak in the air line between the air compressor and water tank, along with a defective air valve near the air compressor. The contractor has ordered a replacement valve and anticipates that all repairs will be completed by October 13, 2010. Once these repairs are completed, the tank will be put into service and monitored by Public Works Staff to ensure proper functionality.

Over the next several months, after the City has taken ownership of the tank, Public Works Staff will work methodically to increase City water system pressure in small increments. Doing this over time and in small increments will allow Public Works Staff to assess the water system's pressure capacity, and ensure that the water system is not over-pressurized to the point of causing damage. Prior to the USDA Water Project, the City's water pressure (PSI) was in the high 30's. Currently, the City's water pressure is approximately 50 PSI. With the new hydro-pneumatic tank in service, Public Works Staff will work to increase the City's pressure to 60-65 PSI,

The City continues to assess the contractor project schedule delay costs due to the delay in tank delivery.

Staff: G. M. Vasquez

- **Project:** 6th Street Bridge Rehabilitation – New Box Culvert

Status: Staff has a “Field Review” meeting with Caltrans scheduled for October 21, 2010. This meeting is part of Caltrans’ environmental review process that continues review of the Preliminary Environmental Study (PES) that the City Planner submitted to Caltrans this past August. Meeting attendees will include the City Administrator, City Public Works, Engineering and Planning Staff, and Caltrans Environmental, Engineering, Planning, and Administration Staff. Some time after this meeting, Caltrans will inform Staff of the following:

- Which additional environmental studies will be required.
- If the City will be allowed to modify and use the Giant Garter Snake (GGS) Study prepared for the USDA Wastewater Treatment Plant funding application for this project, due to the close proximity of the two projects.
- Environmental process completion schedule.

During a conference call in September, Caltrans asked that the City complete the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration and submit the approved copy to the State. The City Planner had prepared this document several months ago, and has circulated it to applicable agencies for review. This document will be brought forth to the City Council at the November Council Meeting for approval.

Like last month’s report to the City Council, it appears that the process is progressing better than expected. A definitive project schedule remains difficult to anticipate at this point, but Staff should have more information some time after the field review meeting.

Staff: G. M. Vasquez